United Nations S/2014/165

Security Council

Distr.: General
10 March 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 8 March 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to forward, enclosed herewith, a copy of the letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, Ivan Mrkić, related to the formation of the so-called "Armed Forces of Kosovo", addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would distribute the present letter and its annex to all the members of the Security Council and publish it as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Milan **Milanović**

14-25725 (E) 110314

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Belgrade, 8 March 2014]

I am writing to you following the worrying announcements and developments in Kosovo and Metohija, fraught with potentially very serious consequences for security and stability in the Province, but also for the entire region.

As a matter of fact, the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo announced on 4 March 2014 the formation of the so-called "Armed Forces of Kosovo", which represents a grave violation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) which provides for the deployment in our southern Province of international forces under the aegis of the United Nations. The possibility of forming the so-called "Armed Forces of Kosovo" is thereby excluded. The creation of a "Kosovo army" would, no doubt, inflict a heavy blow to all efforts to find peaceful solutions and amount to a serious undermining of the authority and global role of the Security Council in safeguarding international peace and security.

The announcement of the formation of these forces itself caused additional anxiety among Serbian and other non-Albanian populations, who have lived there in an atmosphere of unpunished violence, arbitrary arrests and threats to the freedom of movement for years and who could not experience their creation otherwise but as an additional direct threat to their survival in Kosovo and Metohija.

These acts of the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government are contrary to the spirit of the dialogue between Belgrade and Priština, conducted under the aegis of the European Union, to which the Republic of Serbia has been sincerely and fully committed since the very beginning and will certainly have a negative impact on further progress in the dialogue, as well as the implementation of the agreements reached.

Because of the aforementioned and in the interest of maintaining peace and creating conditions for normal life of all communities and citizens living in Kosovo and Metohija, I call on you to use your authority and see to it that this apparent threat to peace and security be prevented. In the efforts to maintain peace and find solutions for all outstanding issues through dialogue and agreement, you can continue to count on further and unreserved support and cooperation of the Republic of Serbia.

(*Signed*) Ivan **Mrkić**